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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of Miladin P. Lazarov et al.) Examiner: Paulraj, Christopher
Title: BIOCOMPATIBLE ARTICLE) Group Art Unit: 1773
US Serial No.: 09/521,086) (Our Docket No.: 7506-01)
Filed on: March 7, 2000)

Hartford, Connecticut, January 12, 2004

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

WITHDRAWAL OF APPEAL FOLLOWING A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Dear SIR:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §. 1.114(d) Applicants withdraw the APPEAL filed in the above-entitled case in favor of the Request for Continued Examination in order to reopen prosecution of the application before the Examiner.

Applicants believe that no additional fees are due with the present withdrawal of the Appeal; however, please charge any deficiencies that may exist to Deposit Account No. 13-0235. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the

Applicant's representativ at the phone number listed below should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present request.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea C. Walsh

Registration No. 34,988 Attorney for Applicants

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